



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Lowe et al.

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Gene Silencing

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Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDED RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

AND FOURTH PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed June 6, 2001, applicants herewith submit the following Amended Response to Notice of March 13, 2001.

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

On a separate page following the claims, please insert the following Abstract. A clean copy of the Abstract on a separate page is also enclosed.

-- ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Constructs and methods for enhancing the inhibition of a target gene within an organism involve inserting into the gene silencing vector an inverted repeat sequence of all or part of a polynucleotide region within the vector. The inverted repeat